

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

AUGUST 29, 2006

For several years the Board of Supervisors has committed funding to provide crossing guards at elementary schools throughout the County. Board offices work with local school districts and traffic engineers in the Department of Public Works to identify appropriate locations. The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) contracts with vendors to provide the crossing guards.

This week many students returned to school at various locations in the Santa Clarita Valley. Parents contacted my office about the lack of crossing guards at four separate schools in three different school districts. School district superintendents were particularly concerned about those elementary schools located on major or secondary highways, where traffic volumes are higher. Although LACOE and Public Works implemented interim measures to address the problem, the absence of crossing guards in the first week of school is unacceptable.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Director of the Department of Public Works to:

- Investigate the factors that contributed to crossing guards not being in place on the first day of school and develop a protocol plan that guarantees coverage when crossing guards do not report to work;

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- Evaluate the contracting process with outside vendors, including consideration of whether this responsibility should be consolidated within LACOE or Public Works;
- Consult with representatives of the Castaic Union School District, Newhall School District, and the Saugus Union School District to solicit suggestions for reforming this process; and
- Report back to the Board of Supervisors by September 5th with recommendations to prevent recurrence of this problem in future years.

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